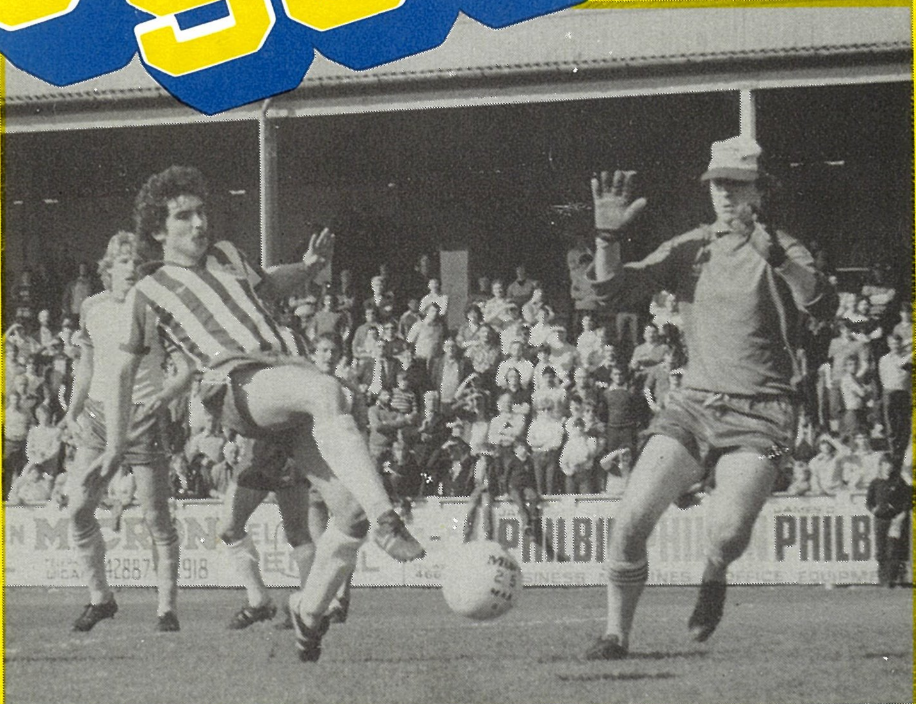
25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Saturday, 25th April, 1981 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- WIMBLEDON

Today's match is sponsored by Stuart Edgar Limited

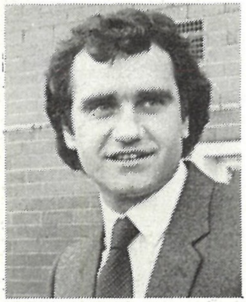
WIGAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED,

Chairman:
Mr. F. Pye

Directors:
Messrs. R. Charlton C.B.E.
A. Eckersley
J. H. Farrimond
A. O. Horrocks
A. Muir

President:
Mr. A. O. Horrocks

Registered Office: Springfield Park
Wigan. Telephone: Wigan 44433.
Company Secretary:
Mr. E. Jones
Player Manager
Mr. L.V. Lloyd
Commercial Manager:
Mr. J. T. Sudworth
Hon. Med. Officers:
Dr. G. Menon
Dr. S. K. Ahuja
Dr. J. Coffey
Hon. Club Chaplain:
Rev. D. Hall



MY POINT OF VIEW

BY now you will have read the list of players that I am prepared to release. There are two reasons why so many players have found their way onto the list. First and foremost, the financial position of the Wigan Athletic Football Club forces me to take such positive steps, and, secondly, I do not feel that the players listed can fit into the pattern I have in mind for the future composition of the team.

I said, when I accepted the job as player/manager, that I would do things my own way and stand or fall by **my** decisions. This is the first positive move I have made, and, although it hurt me to inform some good professionals that their services were no longer required, I obviously feel that I am acting in the best interests for the future of Wigan Athletic.

On the brighter side, I have in mind a few players that I would like to see in a Wigan shirt next season, but, of course, I cannot make any moves in that direction until I have received retained lists from other clubs.

I hope that we will continue to have your full support in the future, which I hope will bring us success.

Have an enjoyable summer, and I hope to see you all next season,

Best wishes,

Tony Lloyd

Front Page Photo — Almost another goal for Tony Quinn against Stockport County.
(Photograph by courtesy of David Cookson)

GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

THE last in our series of great names from the past certainly falls into that category, but writing this article was made that much more enjoyable because the player in question happens to be my own favourite "Latics" star. The player is Jim Flemming, and I think it is fair to say that if Jim, at his best, had been in the Wigan Athletic teams of the first two seasons in League football, then promotion would have been achieved, not narrowly missed.

Jim Flemming rates alongside Colin Methven as Ian McNeill's best-ever signing for the Wigan Athletic Football Club. He was snapped up from Hearts, having seen service with Aberdeen and Dunfermline, in Ian McNeill's first spell as manager with the club, and he was equally at home in midfield or attack. Jim was impressive enough while Ian was manager, but he will be best-remembered for the striking partnership he struck up with centre-forward Geoff. Davies in Gordon Milne's magnificent team.

At the start of the 1970/1971 season, Davies and Flemming were literally taking it in turns to score hat-tricks, such was their fine understanding of each others' play. When one of the two missed a game, the other was nowhere near as effective. Gordon Milne rated Jim "a tremendous player", and certainly Flemming's vast experience picked up in top-class Scottish football stood him in good stead in the Northern Premier League.

Jim Flemming turned in some memorable performances for the Wigan Athletic club, but the one that sticks in my mind was against Peterborough United in a Second Round F.A. Cup tie, at Springfield Park, in 1970. Jim had already made the first goal with an inch-perfect cross for his striking partner Geoff Davies, but it was in the dying seconds of the game that all his years of experience and class finally made their mark. "Latics" were awarded a penalty in the last minute of the game, with the scores level at 1-1. The coolness shown by Jim, as he stepped up to take the penalty kick, was more suited to a practice match atmosphere, rather than an F.A. Cup tie played in front of 17,000 people. Needless to say, the penalty was struck home, and "Latics" went through to play Manchester City at Maine Road in the Third Round. In this game too Jim Flemming's performance was of the highest calibre.

After a couple more seasons with Wigan Athletic, Jim was released, when the directors came to the conclusion that a knee injury he had picked up would probably finish his career. Flemming proved them wrong, went back to join Ian McNeill at Ross County, and only two or three years ago went into team management in the Highland League.

If he shows the same class and skill as a manager as he did as a player, then "Gentleman Jim" will not go far wrong.



RESERVE ROUNDUP

by Fred Eyre

I AM pleased to report that next season the reserve team will be returning to the Lancashire League which served us so well in the two seasons previous to 1980-1981. In addition, we will be remaining as members of the Umbro Floodlit League, so, in effect, we will be increasing the number of reserve team fixtures next season to about sixty in total. This should enable us to give more games to the many trialists who approach the club, not to mention the professionals who are temporarily out of the first team.

We completed our fixtures last week with a game at Crewe. The "Alexandra" played their entire first team against us in an entertaining fixture which resulted in a narrow 2-3 defeat for our boys.

Our Youth Team have had a very successful season, and their manager David Crompton has been delighted with their performances. At the time of writing, our boys, having been at the top of the league for a couple of months, now look likely to finish as runners-up, having lost recently by the odd goal to both Burnley and Manchester United. However, with doubles recorded over Bolton Wanderers, Everton and Liverpool, we can look to the future with confidence, especially when we bear in mind the talent of such sixteen-year-olds as Neil Mawdsley and Stephen Walsh from Preston and Andrew Wilson and Graham Hatton, two Wigan boys. At the end of the day, our youth policy is not just about winning leagues, but a matter of giving youngsters the experience to eventually take them all the way through to the first team.

Thank you for the interest you have shown in reserve team activities during the season.

All best wishes,

COMMERCIAL CHATTER

IT hardly seems five minutes since we began the initial planning for this year's programme, yet here we are penning the final comments on commercial activities for season 1980/1981.

To misquote one of England's greatest heroes, the season has been long and hard, and there has been no withdrawal nor shirking of responsibilities. At times, it has only been sheer willpower, dedication and the generous support given by the fans that has kept the hard-pressed members of my department up to the mark. I would not like to think that the twelve months ahead are going to be so taxing on our spirit and endeavour as the past twelve months. Life is certainly going to be hard for a little while yet, but surely all the hard work and planning that has taken place must bear fruit soon.

I have written many times that, without the public's support, our efforts will be futile, and I do appeal to all those with the best interests of Wigan Athletic at heart to back the club in every way possible during the close season. The period between May and August is likely to be the most difficult we have experienced since joining the Football League. The buying of lottery tickets, the purchasing of "Take-Five" tickets and season tickets, not to mention the spreading of the good word about the Football Club, are vital, if Season 1981/1982 is to be a success and if the club is to enter its 50th year at a higher level of competition.

I would like to thank, most sincerely, all the business concerns and private individuals who have supported our cause during the past 12 months. In particular, I would like to place on record my own personal gratitude to my staff, who, in spite of the increasing pressures placed upon them, have responded in their usual cheerful and conscientious manner.

While the players recuperate from their labours, we begin again the cycle of events and planning for next season. Come August, we, like players and fans alike, will begin the new season full of hope and enthusiasm. Together we **must** make a better Wigan Athletic Football Club.

Today's match is sponsored by Stuart Edgar Limited, of Etherstone Mill, Lilford Street, Leigh, WN7 4JN, Telephone No. Leigh 676131. Manufacturers of disposable products, we are most grateful to the firm, and to the Managing Director, Mr. Brian Sutcliffe, in particular, for repeating last year's sponsorship.

Today's match ball has been kindly donated by Ascot Motors (Preston) Limited, in association with Wigan Autos, 258 Manchester Road, Higher Ince, Wigan, Telephone No. Wigan 35220. Ascot Motors specialise in quality, clean cars around the £2,000 price range where possible. Even if you are not contemplating a change at present, it is well worth a visit to their premises.

All best wishes,

Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 22nd April, 1981.

Dear Readers,

I am grateful to Mr. Sudworth for allowing me to use this space in today's programme to say a few words to you all, and also to Mr. Armitage of Chelmsford for his kind enquiry about me in his letter published for the Mansfield game.

As many of you will know this is my first season as Official Chaplain and therefore I have a particular personal sadness that it has not coincided with great success on the field, but I do not believe that there is any direct link between the two facts! My interest in Latics has not just begun though, as I came along as a spectator shortly after arriving in Wigan at the beginning of 1975 and very quickly became a regular supporter, and in due course, a season-ticket holder. While we were still a Premier League club I got to know many of the people involved on and off the pitch at Springfield Park and so began, in an unofficial way, my role as "Club Vicar" with my dog-collar being a somewhat conspicuous feature about the scene.

Like you all, I was absolutely delighted at our election to the Football League, but incidentally, there was an extra poignancy about that for me as for nearly twenty years, from being a small boy, I had been a supporter of my home club — Southport! There was no question of divided loyalties, however, as I had then and still have, a great belief in the potential future of Soccer in Wigan. I have not always been just a spectator of this great game, but also played for a number of years, (admittedly with more enthusiasm than skill), both at home and as a student until a serious illness in 1970 ended my career as a winger before any manager could follow what I think is a sad trend and axe me in the name of tactics.

There are now more than a dozen League clubs throughout the four divisions who have appointed Chaplains and the number is growing steadily. I believe it is important that the Christian Church is involved in every area of life, because God cares about all that we do. Professional sportsmen are often under great pressures these days, and if I can help in any way be being available to encourage, console or simply listen, then, I'm sure that the presence of a clergyman can be of help amidst the pressures and insecurities. That very briefly, is how I see my role as Chaplain alongside my love of the game itself.

Finally, a word of thanks to our Chairman, Mr. F. Pye, to our former manager Ian McNeill, and more recently to Larry Lloyd, our player-manager for all their help, kindness and courtesy to me during this season. Good wishes to all for 1981-1982.

Denis Hall

PHOTOFILE

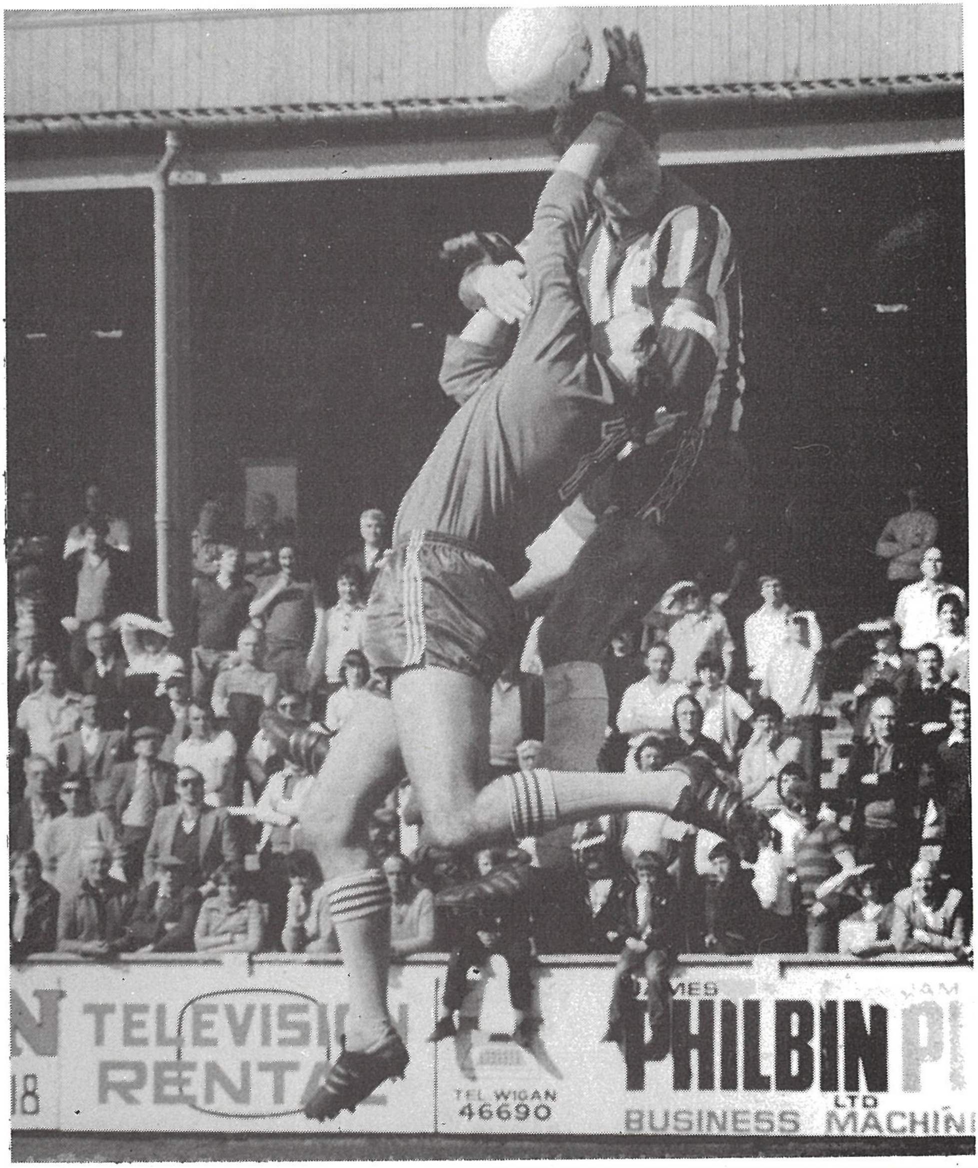
WIGAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB



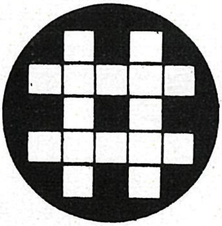
ABOVE:
Alex Cribley finds space to get in his pass despite the close attention of Stockport County defenders.

RIGHT:
Larry Lloyd and David Lawson (Stockport County) dispute possession of a high ball.

Photographs by courtesy of David Cookson.


TELEVISION
RENTAL
TEL WIGAN
46690
PHILBIN
LTD
BUSINESS MACHINE

PASTIME-FUNTIME



ON THE BALL No. 26
Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.
Cusack or Cross; "It's --- that count"; McNeill, maybe; Oxford are at --- Ground.

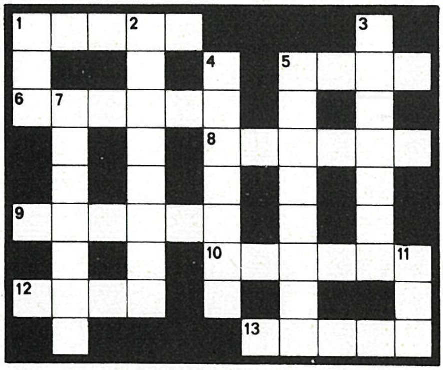


"I don't want to embarrass you Ref., but that's a Barclaycard you're showing me..."

c MIKE TURNER CARTOONS

CLUB CLUE No. 26
Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side:
We hear it's a complete piece of meat.

MIXED DOUBLES No. 26
Rearrange the letters in each of the words **SALES and UNITED** to find two club nicknames.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 26 (compiled by David Peck)

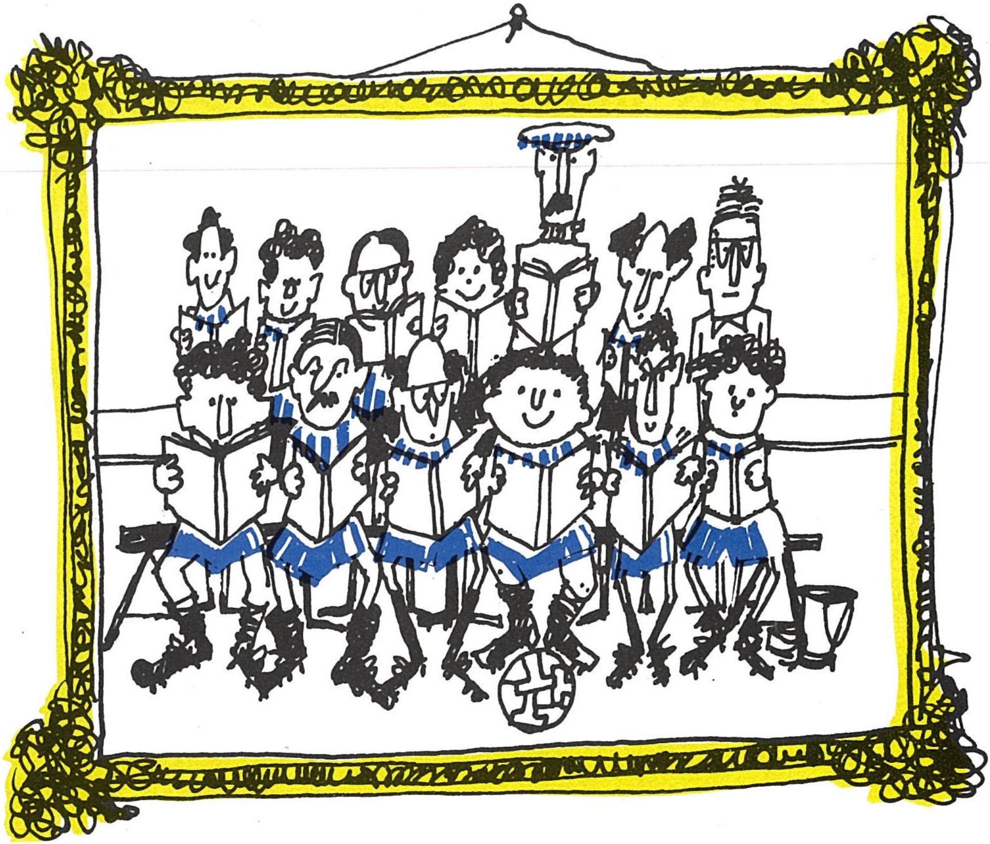
ACROSS

1. First name of two members of England's World Cup-winning team (5)
5. In their then record purchase, Leeds bought this defender from Blackpool in what was their then record sale (4)
6. He became Southampton's record buy in 1978 (6)
8. Striker who joined Barnsley from Chelsea (6)
9. Striker whose figures include goals for Ipswich, Luton and Villa (6)
10. Where Alec Stock and Jimmy Bloomfield have each been manager twice (6)
12. His five FA Cup Final appearances were all at Wembley with the same club (4)
13. Bremner or Bird (5)

DOWN

1. Jock Stein is known as "The --- Man" (3)
2. Keeper who joined QPR from Palace this season (8)
3. Old England wing-half who subsequently managed Burnley, Everton PNE and Hull (7)
4. Former Plymouth and Millwall forward with Exeter in recent seasons (7)
5. Break (4-4)
7. European Footballer of the Year between Denis Law and Bobby Charlton (7)
11. The total of Bury's FA Cup Final goals (3)

Answers on Page 22.



Books on Football?

Books on practically everything at Smiths bookshop.
Wigan's largest selection of Magazines, Records, Paperbacks, Text Books, Maps and Stationery.

Come and see for yourself.

smiths
bookshop

41 Mesnes Street Wigan Telephone Wigan 46270/42810

OUR VISITORS



WIMBLEDON FOOTBALL CLUB — 1980/1981 — (Left to right' **Back Row:** D. Bassett (Manager), Downes, M. Smith, T. Cunningham, D. Beasant, S. Jones, A. Cork, P. Denny, G. Hodges, A. Gillett (Assis **Front row:** F. Joseph, P. Brown, S. Ketteridge, G. Armstrong, S. Galliers (Captain), J. Leslie, D. Hubbi

FOR OUR last home game of the 1980/1981 season, we are delighted to have as our visitors the Wimbledon Football Club, its directors, management, staff and supporters. Although we have met Wimbledon at both non-League and Football League levels, we have yet to record our first victory over "The Dons". Without doubt our visitors can be described as our "bogey" team, because, although we have acquitted ourselves well in the three previous Football League fixtures, at the end of the day the Wimbledon club has taken all the points at stake. Needing just two points to ensure their rapid return to the Third Division, "The Dons" will once again be anxious to give little away and look for the odd goal victory that could set the seal on a solid performance in this year's League competition.

The Wimbledon Football Club, caught up as it has been in the comings and goings affecting the Crystal Palace Football Club, has maintained a strong challenge for promotion in the second half of the season, and the management and players are to be congratulated upon taking everything in their stride and, barring last minute disasters, gaining promotion and Third Division Football for their loyal supporters. It is a great pity, as far as Wigan Athletic is concerned, that, after renewing acquaintances, contact will be lost for at least twelve months, with Fourth Division Football being the order of the day at Springfield Park in season 1981/1982.

To all our visitors who have made the long journey northwards today, we extend a warm welco[me] best wishes for an enjo[y] safe journey home toni[g] not be too long before visit to Plough Lane.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESU

Season 1978/1979

9th Sept. 1978 Wimbled
H.T. Scor
Scorers: V
Eames. (P
Wigan At

14th Feb. 1979 Wigan At
H.T. Scor
Scorers: V
(Pen.)
Wimbled

Season 1980/1981

31st Mar. 1981 Wimbled
H.T. Scor
Scorers: V
Wigan At

WIMBLEDON

Ground: Plough Lane, Durnsford Road, Wimbledon
Year Formed: 1889
Football League Record:
1977-1979 Member of Fourth Division
1979-1980 Member of Third Division
1980-1981 Member of Fourth Division



R. Goddard, W.
stant Manager).
ick, M. Belfield.

me and offer our
yable game and a
ht. We hope it will
we pay our next

ILTS

on 2 Wigan Ath. 1
e 0-1 Att. 3,217
Wimbledon: Denny,
n.)
h. Corrigan.
h. 1 Wimbledon 2
e 0-2 Att. 6,704
Wigan Ath. Purdie

n: Leslie (2)

on 1 Wigan Ath. 0
e 1-0 Att. 2,638
Wimbledon: Hodges.
h. —

PEN PICTURES

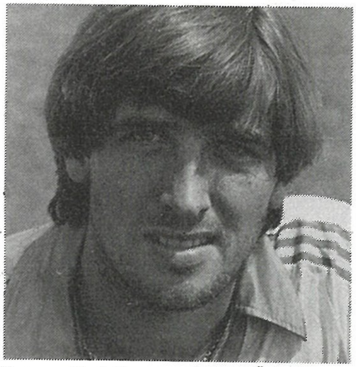
RAY GODDARD — Goalkeeper — Age 31 years. Height 5'11". Ray is the veteran of the team and the most experienced. Signed for Wimbledon in January 1978 and has played 126 times for the Club since then. Had played over 350 League games whilst with Millwall and Orient before coming to Plough Lane. Also had one game with Greenock Morton of the Scottish League.

DAVID BEASANT — Goalkeeper — Age 20 year 6'4" tall. Signed from Edgware Town of the Athenian League and made his first team debut last season.

STEVE JONES — Defender — 23 years old 6'1" tall. Signed from Walsall in 1978/1979 for £15,000. Previously with Queens Park Rangers.

GARY ARMSTRONG — Defender — Age 23 years 5'10". Joined the Dons from Gillingham last season for an £18,000 fee.

TOMMY CUNNINGHAM — Defender — Age 24 years 6'1" tall. Wimbledon's most expensive signing when they paid



Queens Park Rangers £45,000 for him in 1979. Previous club Chelsea. Over 100 games for Club.

WALLY DOWNES — Age 18 years 5'10" tall. This versatile young man, who is a former apprentice can play in any position.

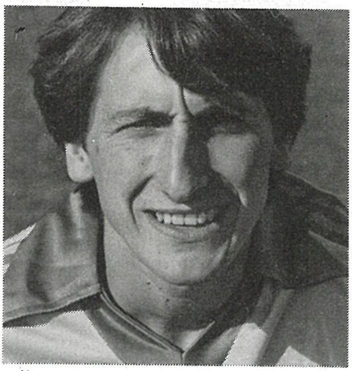
MICK SMITH — Age 22 years. 6'0" tall. This Sunderland born Central Defender was signed from Lincoln City in December, 1979.

STEVE KETTERIDGE — Midfield — Age 20 years. 5'11" tall. An elegant and skilful player who joined the Dons from Derby County in 1977.

STEVE GALLIERS — Midfield — Age 23 years. 5'4" tall. Joined Wimbledon in 1977 from the Cheshire League Club Chorley. Has been "Player of the Year" for the past two seasons. A busy player who has attracted interest by several clubs. Has played over 150 games for Wimbledon.

PAUL DENNY — Height 5'10" tall. Age 23 years. Paul was signed from Southend United in 1978. A versatile player, Paul can play in all positions. Scored six goals last season.

JOHN LESLIE — Striker — Age 24 years. Height 5'8" tall. Wimbledon's longest serving player and last season's leading



goalscorer. Was signed in 1975/1976 season from Dulwich Hamlet. Has played over 150 games for Wimbledon.

ALAN CORK — Striker — Age 21 years. 6'0" tall. Signed from Derby County in 1978. Has scored over 60 goals for Wimbledon since then and played over 150 games for the Club.

PETER BROWN — Age 19 years. 5'10" tall. Born Hemel Hempstead. Peter has come through from an Apprentice Professional.

FRANCIS JOSEPH — Striker — Aged 20 years. Height 5'10". Born in Paddington, London. Previously with non-League clubs, Willesden, Wealdstone, and Hillingdon Borough.

DAVID HUBBICK — Striker — Aged 20 years. 5'7" tall. Signed in September from Ipswich Town, whom he joined as an apprentice. Scored on his home debut against Mansfield Town.

STATISTICS

Home fixtures in capitals. Wigan scores first.
Player scoring in bold. † Player substituted.
[2] Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
*' In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F - A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug. 9	CREWE ALEXANDRA F.L.Cup 1 1st Leg	2 - 1	5,512	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	**Gore[2]**	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Tierney	A. Quinn
Aug. 13	Crewe Alexandra F.L.Cup 1 2nd Leg AET	2 - 2	4,063	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	**Gore[1]**	Methven	Davids	A. Quinn	Wright	Houghton	**Hutchinson[1]**	Tierney	McMullan
Aug. 16	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	0 - 3	5,332	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	M. Quinn
Aug. 23	Lincoln City	0 - 2	3,939	Brown	Curtis	Fretwell	Gore	Methven	Davids	M. Quinn	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	McMullan
Aug. 27	Preston N.E. F.L.Cup 2 1st Leg.	0 - 1	8,028	Brown	Curtis	Fretwell	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	A. Quinn
Aug. 30	ALDERSHOT	1 - 0	4,300	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	**Wright[1]**	Houghton	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	A. Quinn
Sep. 3	PRESTON N.E. F.L. CUP 2 2nd Leg	1 - 2	9,692	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	**Wright[1]**	Houghton	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	A. Quinn
Sep. 6	PORT VALE	1 - 0	4,666	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	**Gore[1]**	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	Glenn
Sep. 13	Darlington	1 - 3*	2,321	Brown	Fretwell	Kettle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Oliver	Hutchinson	Corrigan	Glenn
Sep. 16	Halifax Town	1 - 0	2,052	Brown	Curtis	Kettle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	**A. Quinn[1]**	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Sep. 20	BURY	2 - 1	6,021	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	**Gore[2]**	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Sep. 27	Mansfield Town	1 - 3	3,402	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	**Hutchinson[1]**	A. Quinn	Corrigan	G. Urquhart
Oct. 1	HALIFAX TOWN	4 - 1	4,247	Ward	Curtis	**Kettle[1]**	Gore	Methven	Davids	**G.Urquhart[1]**	Wright	Hutchinson	**M. Quinn[2]**	Corrigan	McMullan
Oct. 4	Rochdale	0 - 3	3,479	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	Gore	Methven	Davids	G. Urquhart	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	Corrigan	Houghton
Oct. 8	DONCASTER ROVERS	3 - 0	3,608	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	G. Urquhart	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	**M. Quinn[3]**	Tierney	Corrigan
Oct. 11	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	1 - 1	5,320	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	G. Urquhart	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	**Corrigan[1]**	Tierney
Oct. 18	Torquay United	0 - 2	2,013	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	G. Urquhart	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	Corrigan	Tierney
Oct. 20	Southend United	0 - 1	5,643	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	Fretwell	Methven	Davids	Tierney	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	Corrigan	Houghton
Oct. 25	TRANMERE ROVERS	1 - 1	5,421	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	G. Urquhart	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	**M. Quinn[1]**	Corrigan	Houghton
Oct. 29	YORK CITY	1 - 0	3,668	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	**G.Urquhart[1]**	Methven	Fretwell	Glenn	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	Corrigan	Oliver
Nov. 1	A.F.C. Bournemouth	0 - 3	2,983	Ward	Curtis	Kettle	Fretwell	Methven	Cribley	Glenn	Wright	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	G. Urquhart	Corrigan
Nov. 4	Doncaster Rovers	1 - 1	3,625	Ward	Curtis	Fretwell	Tierney	Methven	Cribley	Glenn	Wright	Houghton	**M. Quinn[1]**	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 8	BRADFORD CITY	0 - 1	5,155	Ward	Curtis	Fretwell	Tierney	Methven	Cribley	Glenn	G. Urquhart	W.Urquhart	M. Quinn	Hutchinson	McMullan
Nov. 12	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	3 - 0	3,375	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G.Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	Glenn	Wright	**W.Urquhart[1]**	**M. Quinn[2]**	Corrigan	A. Quinn
Nov. 15	Hartlepool United	1 - 3	5,020	Brown	Fretwell	McAdam	G.Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	**Houghton[1]**	Wright	W.Urquhart	M. Quinn	Corrigan	McMullan
Nov. 22	CHESTERFIELD F.A. CUP 1	2 - 2	8,682	Brown	Fretwell	McAdam	Hutchinson	Methven	Cribley	**Houghton[2]**	Wright	W. Urquhart	M. Quinn	Corrigan	McMullan
Nov. 25	Chesterfield F.A. Cup 1 Replay	0 - 2	8,372	Brown	Fretwell	McAdam	Hutchinson	Methven	Cribley	Houghton	Wright	W. Urquhart	G. Urquhart	Corrigan	McMullan
Nov. 29	Hereford United	1 - 1	2,328	Brown	Curtis	Fretwell	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	**Houghton[1]**	McMullan	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	Corrigan	Glenn
Dec. 6	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	1 - 1	3,790	Brown	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	**McMullan[1]**	M. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	W. Urquhart
Dec. 13	Crewe Alexandra	2 - 1	2,829	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	W. Urquhart	**Houghton[1]**	Hutchinson	Corrigan	**A. Quinn[1]**
Dec. 26	CREWE ALEXANDRA	0 - 0	5,026	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	A. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	W. Urquhart
Dec. 27	Stockport County	1 - 0	3,062	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	**A. Quinn[1]**	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	W. Urquhart
Jan. 3	SOUTHEND UNITED	0 - 1	5,267	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	A. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	W. Urquhart
Jan. 10	York City	1 - 2	2,028	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	A. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Wright	**W.Urquhart[1]**
Jan. 24	Aldershot	1 - 0	2,932	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	**A. Quinn[1]**	Houghton	Hutchinson	Wright	M. Quinn
Jan. 31	LINCOLN CITY	0 - 2	5,190	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	McMullan	A.Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Wright	M.Quinn
Feb. 3	Northampton Town	1 - 1	1,708	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	G. Urquhart	Methven	Cribley	**M.Quinn[1]**	A.Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	Wright	Tierney
Feb. 7	DARLINGTON	3 - 1	3,626	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	Wignall	**Methven[1]**	Cribley	**M. Quinn[1]**	A. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	**Wright[1]**	Glenn
Feb. 11	HEREFORD UNITED	1 - 0	3.370	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	Wignall	Methven	Cribley	M. Quinn	A. Quinn	Houghton	Hutchinson	**Wright[1]**	Glenn
Feb. 14	Port Vale	0 - 3	3,214	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	Hutchinson	Methven	Cribley	M. Quinn	A. Quinn	Houghton	W.Urquhart	Wright	McMullan
Feb. 21	MANSFIELD TOWN	2 - 0	4,032	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Fretwell	Wignall	A. Quinn	**M.Quinn**	Houghton	**Wright**	W.Urquhart
Feb. 28	Bury	0 - 0	4,700	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Fretwell	Wignall	A. Quinn	M. Quinn	Houghton	Wright	W.Urquhart
Mar. 7	ROCHDALE	0 - 1	6,029	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	Wignall	A. Quinn	M. Quinn	Houghton	Wright	Fretwell.
Mar. 13	Peterborough United	0 - 0	3,455	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	G. Urquhart	Wright	M. Quinn	Houghton	Corrigan	Oliver.
Mar. 21	TORQUAY UNITED	2 - 0*	3,377	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	G. Urquhart	Wright	M. Quinn	Houghton	Corrigan	**Hutchinson[1]**
Mar. 29	Tranmere Rovers	3 - 2	3,437	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	G. Urquhart	Wright	M. Quinn	**Houghton[3]**	Corrigan	A. Quinn
Mar. 31	Wimbledon	0 - 1	2,638	Ward	Curtis	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	G. Urquhart	Wright	M. Quinn	Houghton	Corrigan	Fretwell
Apr. 4	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	0 - 1	3,750	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	G Urquhart	Wright	M. Quinn	A. Quinn	Corrigan	W.Urquhart
Apr. 11	Bradford City	3 - 3	2,069	Ward	Cribley	McAdam	Wignall	Methven	Fretwell	Glenn	**Wright[2]**	**M. Quinn**	Houghton	Corrigan	A. Quinn
Apr. 18	STOCKPORT COUNTY	2 - 1	3,980	Ward	Fretwell	McAdam	Cribley	Methven	Lloyd	Glenn	Wignall	**A. Quinn**	Corrigan	**Hutchinson**	W.Urquhart
Apr. 25	WIMBLEDON														
May 2	Scunthorpe United														

PLAYER PORTRAIT

THE SUPPORTERS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR SEASON 1980/1981



COLIN METHVEN

Photograph by courtesy of David Cookson



Greenall's Local Beers

Always available in the Supporters' Club

LOCAL
ALES
TASTED
IN
COMFORTABLE
SURROUNDINGS

"I can't think of a better way to enjoy GREENALL'S LOCAL BEERS"

AREA MANAGER
JACK EATOUGH
WIGAN 56696

FREE TRADE OFFICE
WARRINGTON 51234

Wigan is the home of:



Smiths Happiway Spencers

Inclusive Coach Tours from májor towns in the North West England, North Wales, West and South Yorkshire to destinations throughout the British Isles and Western Europe.

Call in at our Head Office: 70 Market Street, Wigan, WN1 1HY.

Tel: (0942) 44246

or ask your local Travel Agent



GOOD afternoon and welcome to the supporters of the Wimbledon Football Club from the committee and bar staff, on the occasion of our final home fixture of the season.

As most of you will now know, Colin Methven is our "Player of the Year", followed in the voting by Bob Ward and Bobby Hutchinson. The presentation held in the Supporters' Club was a very successful affair, but I was a little disappointed that more players were not able to attend. I am sure the players will appreciate that an occasion of this kind is probably the only time of the year when the supporters can be close to their heroes, having followed them throughout the season. I would like to congratulate the committee on the great job done in organising the event, from the voting to the actual presentation.

Although today is the last match-day, Supporters' Club activities continue throughout the close season and we hope you will patronise us during the summer months. During May, Wednesday night will become an extra concert night, starting with a Command Show on Wednesday, 13th May, when Cliff North, Evergreen and five supporting artists will provide the entertainment.

On Wednesday, 29th April, we have a concert in aid of Alan Ashcroft, who was injured while playing for the Supporters' Club in the National Seven-a-side Competition at Huddersfield, and subsequently required an operation. At this time the artists for the evening are not yet known, but tickets are on sale at 25p. each.

Please note that subscriptions are now due.

Finally, to remind you of the entertainment in the club this weekend:

Saturday, 25th April — Gary Francis
Sunday, 26th April — George Lyons

Thank you for your support and looking forward to seeing you again soon.

NEWS ON 4

by Chris Gill

THE Fourth Division promotion issues could well and truly be finalised by 4.40 p.m. this afternoon, and it looks as though today's visitors Wimbledon and Billy Bremner's Doncaster Rovers outfit will be making the step up the ladder. Doncaster Rovers need to win at Mansfield today to make certain of going up, while Wimbledon need to perform a similar feat in any one of their last three matches. Southend United and Lincoln City, of course, are already promoted, with the Roots Hall side, only relegated last year, set to go back as League Champions.

Gazing for a moment into the Third Division relegation zone, Hull City and Blackpool will definitely make the drop, while Walsall, last year's Fourth Division runners-up, and Colchester United look bankers to slip into the lower Division.

While many end of season games tend to be tame affairs, it seems as though the referees are still being kept very much on their toes. Brian Chambers marred an excellent performance for Halifax Town in their win over Rochdale by getting sent off. Mansfield Town's Dave Coldwell suffered a similar fate in his side's defeat at Scunthorpe, last weekend.

On the brighter side, it is nice to see that Fourth Division players are getting deserved recognition on the international scene. Mansfield Town's centre-back, John McClelland again figures in Northern Ireland's World Cup plans, as does Southend United's free-scoring Derek Spence. Both are in the squad for next week's World Cup Qualifier against Portugal.

Aldershot, so often the bridesmaids in the promotion chase, have appointed Len Walker as their new manager, to replace the departed Tom McAnearney. Walker made 450 Football League appearances for the club and was previously "Mac's" assistant. "The Shots" were beaten only twice during Len Walker's spell as caretaker-manager.

Finally, when Northampton Town travel to Spotland to tackle Rochdale today, they will be hoping for a goals bonanza to keep them way out in front in the scoring stakes. League games involving "The Cobblers" have provided more goals than games involving any other club. In these so-called days of defensive soccer, games between Northampton Town and their opponents have yielded an average of more than three goals a game.

FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 22nd APRIL, 1981.

		HOME					AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Southend Utd.	44	19	3	0	46	5	10	3	9	29	25	64
Lincoln City	43	14	7	1	43	11	9	7	5	20	13	60
Wimbledon	43	14	4	3	36	12	8	5	9	22	28	53
Doncaster Rovers	44	14	4	4	34	19	7	7	8	22	28	53
Peterborough Utd.	44	11	7	4	36	20	6	9	7	30	32	50
Aldershot	44	12	8	2	27	10	6	5	11	15	29	49
Mansfield Town	44	13	4	5	35	14	7	4	11	21	27	48
Darlington	43	12	5	4	40	21	6	5	11	22	35	46
Hartlepool Utd.	44	13	3	6	39	22	6	5	11	21	38	46
Bournemouth	44	9	8	5	30	20	7	5	10	16	25	45
Wigan Athletic	44	12	4	5	28	16	5	6	11	18	35	44
North'pton Town	43	10	7	5	41	26	5	6	10	20	40	43
Bury	43	10	7	4	37	19	6	3	13	28	39	42
Rochdale	43	11	6	5	33	24	3	8	10	25	40	42
Bradford City	44	9	9	4	30	23	4	7	11	20	36	42
Torquay Utd.	44	13	2	7	38	23	5	3	14	17	36	41
Scunthorpe Utd.	44	8	11	3	36	27	2	8	12	18	37	39
Crewe Alexandra	44	10	6	6	28	20	3	7	12	19	39	39
Port Vale	43	10	7	5	40	23	2	5	14	16	46	36
Stockport County	43	9	5	8	27	24	5	2	14	14	30	35
Tranmere Rovers	43	11	5	5	38	21	1	5	16	18	46	34
Yrok City	43	10	2	9	30	18	2	6	14	15	42	32
Halifax Town	44	8	3	11	27	32	2	8	12	16	39	31
Hereford Utd.	42	7	7	7	26	19	2	5	14	7	40	30



SCENE & HEARD

LATICS SPORTS' COMPLEX TO OPEN SOON

MANY supporters will have noted with great interest the new developments taking place at the Springfield Road end of the ground. It is tremendously pleasing to note that this exciting new range of facilities will be opening for public use in the near future.

The floodlit green playing area has one of the best quality surfaces available on the market today, and can be used in virtually any weather conditions; the new pavilion will provide not only changing and showers, but also a gymnasium with ultra-modern weight-training equipment. The project, which in total will cost over £70,000, has been provided by the parent club in conjunction with the Sports' Council (who have also provided a grant of £42,500) and the Metro, who will contribute an additional £10,000 to the changing rooms.

The development has taken a lot of planning, and is part of the Sports' Council's national "Football and the Community" programme, aimed at providing better facilities at League clubs which will benefit both club and public. Wigan Athletic Chairman, Mr. F. Pye, states "This is another step towards establishing Wigan Athletic as one of the best clubs outside the First Division. The complex will be a great help in the club's training, and must be attractive to the people of the area who are short of proper sports' opportunities". Mick Aitken, the Senior Officer of the Sports' Council responsible for the scheme is similarly delighted. "Co-operation from the club has been first-rate", he says, "And with a motivator to be appointed soon to manage the complex, it should be a credit to all concerned".

It has not been possible to open the Complex before the end of the season as was hoped, but it is now anticipated that this will take place some time in May. Full details will be given in the local press, so that all who are interested can make an early approach for its use. In the meantime, if you require further information, please contact either **THE SECRETARY, WIGAN ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB, SPRINGFIELD PARK, WIGAN, or LEISURE SERVICES' DEPARTMENT, WIGAN METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL, BRIDGEMAN TERRACE, WIGAN.**

LATICS AWAY

SATURDAY,
2nd MAY, 1981.
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.
Football League Division Four

SCUNTHORPE UNITED
- v -
WIGAN ATHLETIC

Use M62 Motorway Eastbound until its junction with the M18. Join the M18 (signposted to Scunthorpe) and eventually join M180. Take the first road signposted to Scunthorpe off the M180 and proceed to roundabout, near to which Berkley Hotel is sited. Go straight up the hill towards Town Centre, The Old Show Ground is situated in Doncaster Road to your left.

7th INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME FAIR & EXHIBITION

Organised by
The Football Programme Directory,
at
The Connaught Rooms,
Great Queen Street, London WC2

Saturday, 13th June, 1981.
11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Admission 50p. at the door. Advance tickets 25p. available from 66 Southend Road, Wickford, Essex. (enclosing s.a.e. please)

3rd ACCRINGTON FOOTBALL PROGRAMME FAIR

TOWN HALL,
ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
10.30 a.m. — 4.30 p.m.
SATURDAY, 30th MAY, 1981.
Admission 20p.
Over 25,000 football programmes on display



The Chairman's Column

I WOULD like to begin my final notes for the season by thanking all our supporters for their loyalty in supporting the club throughout the season. Although we have finished in the middle of the League table, we have still been able to maintain healthy gate figures. The support has been much appreciated, particularly as I know how disappointed the fans have been at not gaining promotion.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to welcome Eric Barnes and Fred Summers, two very capable businessmen, who will add that little bit more weight and experience in the Board Room. At the same time, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Jack Farrimond, who has informed his colleagues that he will not be putting up for re-election to the Board at the Annual General Meeting. We thank him for his work for Soccer in the Wigan and district area over the past fifty years. He has served the town and the game he loves well. Jack will still be one of us because he has accepted our offer of a Vice-Presidency, a well-earned reward for his loyal service.

By now, you will have learned the content of Larry Lloyd's retained list, and you will have observed that the playing staff has been cut by half. The club is now faced with a rebuilding programme, and we will have to look around to find the talent to build onto what remains. You can be sure that we have every intention of fielding a side of which supporters will be proud during next season.

Congratulations are due to Colin Methven, the supporters' Player of the Year. Unfortunately, due to a prior and long standing dinner engagement, I was unable to attend the presentation held in the Supporters' Club, but I was delighted to learn that the evening was a great success. The Wigan Athletic Football Club could certainly do with more players of the quality of Colin Methven, who has proved himself a most valuable asset.

Enjoy today's game, and the long summer,

Yours sincerely,

Freddie Pye

Chairman.

Solutions to Pastime Funtime

SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 26 — *Across* 1. Bobby (Charlton & Moore) 5. Hart 6. George 8. Aylott 9. Geddis 10. Orient 12. Rice (Arsenal) 13. Kevin *Down* 1. Big 2. Burridge 3. Britton 4. Pearson 5. half-time 7. Eusebio (1965) 11. ten (4-0 & 6-0)

MIXED DOUBLES No. 26 Seals, United

CLUB CLUB No. 26 Ful-ham

ON THE BALL No. 26 David; goals; Billy; Manor.



M.A.PETERS

THE WIGAN HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTRE

TIMBER,
BUILDERS' AND PLUMBERS' MERCHANTS
Soho Street, Newtown, Wigan (Next door to Asda)
Telephone: Wigan 46341

YOU WANT IT — WE STOCK IT!

OPEL MAIN AREA DEALERS

GATHURST SERVICE STATION

New OPELS and Quality USED Cars

SALES — SERVICE — PARTS

Test Drive an OPEL Today . . .
Kadett-Ascona-Manta-Rekord-Senator-Monza
Opel reliability comes as standard.

GATHURST LANE, SHEVINGTON, Nr. WIGAN.
Tel: APPLEY BRIDGE 2434

For Holidays and Travel contact —

WORLD WIDE TRAVEL LIMITED

55-57 Mesnes Street, Wigan
Telephone: WIGAN 41236 (5 lines)

I.A.T.A.

ABTA Association of British Travel Agents

BALL DONOR

Today's Match Ball has been kindly donated by Ascot Motors (Preston) Limited in association with Wigan Autos, 258, Manchester Road, High Ince, Wigan. Telephone No. Wigan 35220.

TEAMS

Wigan Athletic (Royal Blue		Wimbledon (Yellow/Blue)
Bob Ward	1	David Beasant
Dave Fretwell	2	Steve Jones
Steve McAdam	3	Gary Armstrong
Alex Cribley	4	Steve Galliers
Colin Methven	5	Mick Smith
Larry Lloyd	6	Tommy Cunningham
Mark Wignall	7	Steve Ketteridge
Jeff Wright	8	Paul Denny
Mike Quinn	9	John Leslie
Peter Houghton	10	Francis Joseph
Frank Corrigan	11	Wally Downes
David Glenn	12	David Hubbick

OFFICIALS

Referee:
MR. C.N. SEEL
(Carlisle)
Started refereeing in 1961 and from local leagues progressed via Northern Regional, Northern Flood-lit, Central and Irish Leagues to the Football League full list. Has refereed a number of important League matches and officiated in three F.A. Cup Semi-Finals and an Amateur Cup Final at Wembley as well as Anglo-Italian and Fairs Cup matches in Italy and Spain. Refereed 1979 Challenge Vase Final. He is married, with two daughters, and works as a Compositor. Keen on gardening, and enjoys all sports and fell walking. Serves on several local football and refere-ing committees.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. K.N.Maughan
(Stockport)
Yellow Flag
Mr. N.L. Wilson
(Morecambe)

HERE NEXT

WIGAN AND DISTRICT AMATEUR ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE

LAITHWAITE SHIELD FINAL

Monday, 4th May, 1981 — Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

Designed and printed by Publicity Print Services, Ashton-in-Makerfield. Tel: (0942) 712480.